

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 16, 1970

Mr. Edwin Wolf, 2nd
The Library Company of Philadelphia
Broad and Christian Sts.
Philadelphia, Penna. 19106

Dear Ed:

It was most pleasant to chat with you briefly
in Philadelphia.

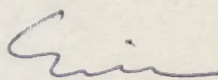
As to your Arabic book, I followed up with
Dr. Shalomo Gortein, and he said he was retired. I then
asked my friend, Dr. George Miles of the American Numis-
matic Society, and he will gladly read the necessary pages.
Please photocopy the three first and the last three pages
of the book and send them to Dr. Miles at American Numismatic
Society, Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts., New York
City, New York 10032. If you prefer that I send them,
please mail them to me for that purpose.

Under separate cover I am sending you my book,
Early Paper Money of America, with my compliments.

Your library has a Du Simitiere item I need a
copy of. It is a broadside of the sale of his effects on
March 10, 1785. Because it is large, I need only sectional
Xerox copies which I can reassemble.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

To:

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Street
St. Louis, Missouri
63102

THE

Numismatic Scrapbook
MAGAZINE

P. O. Box 150

Sidney, Ohio 45365

SUBJECT

FOLD ▼

DATE

August 26, 1971

Dear Eric:

We have exhausted all abilities here to find the source material for the article reference to DuSimitiere.

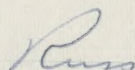
If the data on DuSimitiere has since been discredited we certainly know of nothing which would substantiate the data as it was published.

It was nice to see you again at the ANA Convention.

With warmest personal regards,

Cordially,

NUMISMATIC SCRAPBOOK MAGAZINE


Russell Rulau
Editor

— /jmb

Nova Constellatio Struck In England

The United States made its first attempt at creating a common coinage to be used throughout its colonies during and immediately following the Revolutionary war, or the American War of Independence (1775-1783).

To understand the need for its own coinage, we must first realize that "The United Colonies" were involved with the inevitable struggle for independence from Great Britain. The American Revolution was the outcome of a century-long series of conflicts with two fundamental causes, one economic and the other political.

There was little gold or silver coin available and the expense of the war brought about the Continental Congress' decision to issue paper money. On July 25, 1775, the first issue of Continental currency was placed in circulation. The prolonged war made it impossible for the government to redeem the notes and the paper bills became worthless. The saying, "Not worth a Continental" expresses the currency's lack of value.

This unsuccessful attempt at paper money led to the proposal of the "Continental dollar," struck in brass, pewter and silver. It only reached the pattern stage and was probably never placed in circulation. The legends and devices are similar to the paper 1776 fractional Continental currency with the addition of the words CONTINENTAL CURRENCY--1776.

According to DuSimitier's 1784 notebook, the dollar was probably produced as a satire on the paper currency that was becoming a synonym for worthlessness.

Seeing that a United States coinage definitely was needed, Robert Morris, a financier, introduced the idea of a national Mint for the U.S. On January 15, 1782, he submitted Benjamin Dudley's silver pattern pieces, which carried out Gouverneur Morris' (Assistant financier of the Confederation) decimal idea for U.S. money. These are known as the Nova Constellatio patterns of 1783 and consist of the mark (1,000 units), quint (500 units) and bit (100 units). Plans for the Mint

were dropped and the Nova Constellatio silver patterns met with little success in Congress. Only one or two specimens of each denomination are known.

However, Gouverneur Morris contracted for a series of Nova Constellatio coppers to be struck at Birmingham, England, under American auspices. Dated 1783, 1785 and 1786, the pieces circulated throughout the states.

Designs are similar to the silver patterns, but bear no denomination. Thomas Wyon can be attributed as the die cutter, because of identical letter punches used by him on other early American coinage.

The main device of the copper Nova Constellatio pieces picture 13 six pointed stars surrounding rays from a central eye, symbolic of supreme power. Reverse shows U.S. within a laurel wreath with the legend LIBERTAS JUSTITIA and date.

The 1783 and 1785 issues are struck in a number of varieties. There are three types of 1783 copper cents known: One has pointed rays and CONSTELLATIO on obverse and large U. S. on reverse; the other shows pointed rays, CONSTELLATIO, and small U. S.; the third has blunt rays and shows a change in spelling, CONSTELATIO.

Reverse of the 1785 coppers depict U. S. in script. Obverses are similar to above. Varieties follow: Blunt rays, CONSTELATIO; sharp-pointed rays, CONSTELLATIO; and blunt pointed rays, CONSTELLATIO.

Less than a dozen pieces with the 1786 date are known.

With the restoration of peace, trade with England resumed. Not having any federal currency, some states were quick to grant copper coinage privileges to private contractors. Unauthorized private enterprise produced a number of tokens and a number of other private tokens were imported. The Nova Constellatio coppers are of this period, along with the so-called Barcent, the Mott token, the

(Continued on page 1202)

The New Jersey Historical Society



May 1, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

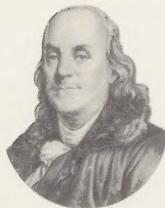
As one who has personally profited from your publications on colonial currency, I was pleased to receive your letter inquiring about the late Damon Douglas and the diary of Pierre Eugène du Simitière. We do not have this diary, but if you have not already checked with the Library Company of Philadelphia, you probably should do so. In the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections the Library Company is listed as having his papers; possibly the diary which you are seeking is among them. I hope so.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Morris

Robert C. Morris
Keeper of Manuscripts

Nov 1970



THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

CHESTNUT STREET AT NINTH
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19105

CABLE FRANKBEN
TELETYPE TWX 215-569-9713
TELEPHONE WALNUT 2-8600

Descriptive Catalogue of the Du Simitière Papers in the Library Company of Philadelphia

Prepared by Host Records Survey W.P.A.
Phila, Penna Apr 1940.

Preface: Born 1736 in Geneva Switz - ~~travelling~~ ^{travelled in} West Indies for 10 or more years
prior to 1764 collecting historical, nat. hist coins & making drawings.
Arrived in NY in 1764 or 1765 & went to Boston, Phila & Burlington NJ. Became
a naturalized citizen ^{in N.Y.} in 1769 and settled in Phila. Became member of
Amer Philosophical Soc in 1768. He helped prepare national seal in 1776 for
committee appointed by Congress and in 1779 drew portrait of Wash which appears on 1791 Cent +
other coins & medals.
Reference Pennsy Arch. 2nd Ser III p 121. Buried ~~in~~ Oct 1784
in Phila.

p. 135 Sale advertised Mar 4, 1785 in Pennay Packet & Daily Advert.
Sale to be held Mar 10, 1785 included coins

Broadside at Lib Co of Phila 18 1/2" x 24 1/2" lists 36 lots
including

p. 145 → 19. A Mahogany Cabinet ^{COINS} containing ancient and modern Gold, Silver
and Copper Coins and Medals: among which are some very common bronzes



AMERICAN MONEY

36 A Collection of Parchment and Paper Money.

- Item# In scraps (odd papers of Du Simitière) pp 103, 106, 107, 109, 118
- 2.. Du Simitière Roman medal list. 1p. Fol 13
 32. Inventory of gold coins 2p Fol 36 (photocopy)
 39. Ancient coins 1p Fol 42 (photocopy)
 40. List of coins & medals 1p Fol 43 (photocopy)
 - 54 List of coins 1p Fol 67 (photocopy)
 116. Antiquities of Rev. Ezra Stiles

Hillingham

An Eighteenth Century Coin Collector

Nums 47, 723

1934

describes Du Simithere

deposited 135 coins as collateral.

20, 10

See Stepanelli p. 60

Harvard Collection

35-122

49-717

Earle	3.	divers	4
berne	1.	colonies franca	1
Soleure	1.	mines de franca	1
Zurich	1.	Milan	2. 1
Geneve	5. 5.	Rape sede vacante 1855	1.
Arasbourg	2.	divers	2.
Wurtzbourg	1.	Lucques	1.
Saltzbourg	1.	Parma	1.
Salzbourg	1.	Venise	2. 1.
Salzbourg	1.	Turquie	1. 3.
Reim Hongrie	2.	Prusse	4.
hanover	1. 1.	Hambourg	2.
colmar	1.	Saxe	1.
cloves	3.	archid. Leopold	1. archid.
Wirttemberg	4.	cologne	1.
Herr Darnstadt	2.	Nuremberg	1.
Bremen	2.	comer mansfeld 1605	1.
hollande	1.	Ferdin. II. Emp. 1623	1.
utrecht	2.	Ferdin. III. Emp. 1646	1.
goldres	2. 2.	Angleterre Henri VI.	1.
groningen	1.	Henri VII.	1.
Zeelande	2. 1.	Edward VI.	1.
Frise	1.	Phil. & Mary.	1.
Overijssel	1.	Elizab.	2.
Days bab autrichiens	5. 6.	Charles I.	3.
Lille du Marechal de Boufflers.	1.	Charles II.	2. 6. 2.
Suede	Ch. IX 1. 4.	Jacques II.	1. 3. 2.
I Daler S. M. Wett och Wapen.	1.	Willi. & Mary	1. 3. 1.
Danemark	14.	William III.	4. 2.
Auspie	1.	Anne	5.
Pologne	1. 3.	George I.	2. 1.
chine	1.	George II.	3. 2.
Portugal	5. 7.	Oliv. Cromwell.	1.
Espagne Ferdinand & isabella	1. 1.	Charles II.	1. 1.
divers	16. 3.	William III.	2.
France Henri 4	2.	Charles II.	3.
Louis 13	1. 1.	George I.	3.
Louis 14	8. 2.	George II.	2.
Louis 15	9. 2.	Voce Populi 1766	2.
		Colon. Amer.	2.
		New Engl.	2. 1

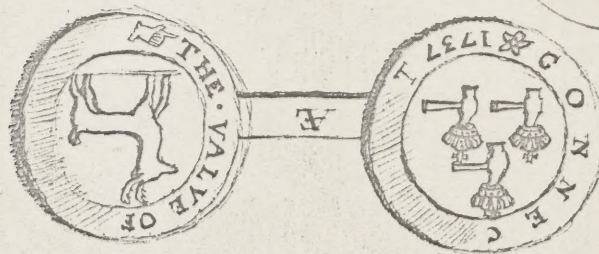
Catalogue of ancient & modern gold medals & coins
 belonging to Peter Eugene Du Siminiere

no 1. a Roman medal of Valentinian	w ^t 8 ^s	2. 22. 1/2 gr
2. half a Sovereign of Edward VI		3. 14
3. half an angel of Queen Elizabeth		3. 4
4. a Jacobus of James the 1 st		6. 10.
5. a gold crown piece of James the 1 st		1. 6.
6. a Carolus of Charles the 1 st		5. 18.
7. a double ducate of Ferdinand & Isabella		4. 8.
+ 8. a double ducate of the canton of Bern 1703		4. 8. 1/2
9. a double sequin of Venice. aloy. mocenigo		4. 11. 1/2
10. a sequin of ditto. Franc. Mauroc		2. 5.
11. a ditto of Clement XIII 1761		2. 5.
12. a ditto of arabia		2. 2
+ 13. a Pistole of Franc. Farnese VII Duke of Parma 1695		4. 5.
14. a medal of Fred. W. ^m the great Elector of Brandenburg. 1677		4. 7.
15. a Florin of Gold of Frederic first margrave of Brandenburg		2. 2.
16. a ditto of Frederic archbishop of Cologne		2. 5. 1/2
17. a Ducate of John George Elector of Saxony 1641		2. 3.
+ 18. a ditto of Christian III King of Denemark 1647		2. 4. 1/2
19. a ditto. of Dan. Philip. archbishop of Mayntz 1655		2. 5.
20. a ditto. of the archiduke Leopold		2. 4. 1/2
21. a ditto of Christ. Carol regent of Brandenburg 1726		2. 5. 1/2
22. a ditto of the city of Hamburg 1726		2. 6.
23. a small piece of the prince of Waldeck 1761		13. 1/2
24. a small ditto the eight of a moydore		16.
	8 ^s 70.	

70 D.W. of Gold a 38 old Tenor the ounce 133. 1/2 13. 6.

Pieas de	or	argt	cuivre	Pieas de	or	argent	cuivre
Savoie			1.	France tres ancienne		1	—
basle			3.	divers		1 4	—
berne			1.	colonies franca		1	—
Soleure			1.	mines de frana		1	—
Zurich			1.	Milan		2	1
Geneve		5.	5.	Rape sede vacante 1555		1	—
Strasbourg			2.	divers		2	—
Wurtzbourg			1.	Lucques		1	—
Saltzbourg			1.	Larone	1	—	—
baviere			1.	Venise	2	1	—
Reins d'hongrie			2.	Turquie	1	3	—
hanover		1.	1.	Prusse	1	4	—
colmar		1.	—	Hambourg		2	—
cleves			3.	Saxe		1	—
Wurtemberg			4.	archid. Leopold	1	ant. 1	—
Heve Darmstadt			2.	cologne		1	—
Bremen			2.	Nuremberg		1	—
hollande			1.	comer mansfeld 1605		1	—
utrecht			2.	Ferdin. II. Emp. 1623		1	—
geldres		2.	2.	Ferdin. III. Emp. 1646		1	—
groninguen		1.	1.	Angleterre Henri VI.		1	—
Zeelande		2.	1.	Henri VII.		1	—
Frise			1.	Edward VI.		1	—
Overissel			1.	Phil. & Mary.		1	—
Pays bas autrichiens		5.	6.	Elizab.	1	2	—
Lille du Marechal de Boufflers			1.	Charles I		3	—
Suede	Ch. IX	1.	4.	Charles II	2	6	2
I. Daler S. M. Wett och Waper			1.	Jacques II	1	3	2
Danemark		14	—	Willi. & Mary	1	3	1
Russie			1.	William III		4	2
Pologne		1.	3.	Anne	1	5	—
Chine			1.	George I		2	1
Portugal		5.	7.	George II		3	2
Espagne Ferdinand & Isabola	1		1.	Oliv. Cromwell		1	—
divers		16	3.	Esse { Charles II		0	1
France Henri 4			2.	William III		2	—
Louis 13		1	1.	Irlande { Charles II			3
Louis 14		8	2.	George I			3
Louis 15		9	2	George II			2
				Voce de puli 176			2
				Colon. Amer.			2
				New Engl. — Isle of Man		2	1

Kings date Monies or pieces	Gold					Silver					Copper							
	sovereigns	half-sovereigns	angels	unites	XX shillings	V shilling	X shill.	crowns	half-crowns	shillings	6 pence	great	three pence	two pence	pennies	half-pennies	farthings	Tokens
Henry the 4th																		
Henry the V																		
Henry VI																		
Edward IV																		
Henry VII																		
Henry VIII																		
Edward VI			I															
Philip & Marie																		
Elizabeth				I														
James I					I													
Charles I						I												
Commonwealth																		
Oliver. Cromwell																		
Charles II																		
James II																		
Will & Mar																		
Will.																		
anne																		
george I																		
george II																		



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24 or

47 angl. argt

27 gros d'argent

18 allem. mauv. argt

10 argent medailly

(3) cuivre d'

10 mon. gerachew. ang. Turkie argt

15 d'argt Italie, esp. port.

8 d'argt pays bas

14 d'Allemagne

18 d'Espagne

13 d'Espagne moderne

2 med. romains argt

180 pieces d'argent

176 d' de cuivre

24 d' d'or

380 monnoye & medailly diverses en ma possession le 17 mars 1767 a Philadelphie

le 9^e fev 1767

25 allem. mauv. argt

16 Italie Esp. port.

10 Espagne med.

14 Danemark

7 Turquie & Afrique

17 France

5 Geneve

4 New England

5 des pays bas autrichiens

4 des prov. un.

1 de Lorraine

52 angl. & Ecos.

30 grands divers

10 medailly div.

2 d'Allemagne

202 pieces d'argent

4 medailly modernes de cuivre

8 d' Rom. grand bronze

15 d' d' petit

27 d' d' d' malles

30 monnoie angl. Ecos. & Irlande cuivre

16 d' cuivre France

12 d' d' port. & Espagne

25 d' allem. pays bas. holland.

11 d' Russie Suede pollogne chine

1 demi ecu quart de Suede

17 goth. Savoye Suine Geneve Strasbourg

8 inconnues

176 pieces de cuivre

5 medailly modernes de cuivre

8 d' Rom. grand bronze

17 d' d' petit

27 d' d' d' malles

38 monnoie angl. Ecos. & Irlande

15 d' France

15 port. esp.

32 allem. pays bas. holland.

10 Russie Suede pollogne chine

5 d'Afrique

17 goth. Savoye, Suine, Geneve, Strasbourg

8 inconnues

1 demi ecu quart de Suede

198 pieces de cuivre

202 d' d' d' argent

28 d' d' d' d'

428 monnoye & medailly diverses en ma possession le 9^e fev 1767 a Boston

Dec 9. 1767 Boston

237 pieces d'argent pesant 66 onces a 50 h. 17. 10.
 33 pieces d'or ——— 4 on. 17 deniers a 3^l. 10^s. 18. 1.
 29 pieces d'argent dans une bourse a port duplicata 2, autres, pesant 1. 5. 6
 175 16 6 Sterling

Etat des Pièces d'argent & d'or en ma possession a New York le 7^{me} Jan 1769

25 Pièces d'argent d'Espagne	11 medailles rom. gr. bronze
20 Louis de France & d'autres d'indes	60 d ^{er} moyen & petit bronze
29 Shillings & demi cou. anglais	5 13 medailles & jetons modernes
29 1/2 pieces & moides plus anglaises	3 21 port. L ^{re} & Italie
10 New England Coin	7 18 pays bas & Allemagne
7 Turquie & Afrique	15 de France
11 medailles &c	1 13 Suède Russie & Chine
5 Geneve	2 13 provinces unies
11 pays bas & prov. unies	17 gothiques Suisse Geneve
19 L ^{re} port. & Italie	16 31 English Scots & Irish
21 demi Louis & autres de France	18 1000 americana Shillingman & Sweden
10 Espagne commun	4 Hibernian t ^{er} coin
15 Batavia &c	3 12 unknown
26 Allemagne mauv. arg.	5 Turquie & Afrique

238 pieces d'argent
 2 med. rom.

240 pieces d'argent
 30 pieces d'or
 252 pieces de cuivre
 522 en tout

252 d'écriture

Etat des Pièces d'argent & d'or en ma possession a New York le 26^{me} Dec 1769

18 English & Scotch
31 Irish
14 1/2 d ^{er} coin, Decoy, & 1000 americana
11 medaille rom. gr. bronze
60 d ^{er} moyen & petit bronze
18 med. & jetons modernes
25 Portugais, Espagne & Italie
25 pays bas & Allemagne
15 French
14 Suède Russie &c
15 provinces unies & pays bas
17 gothiques Suisse Geneve
4 Hibernian t ^{er} coin
15 unknown
5 Turquie & Afrique

257

New York Dec 26, 1769

(I still have one more page
of Law Article)

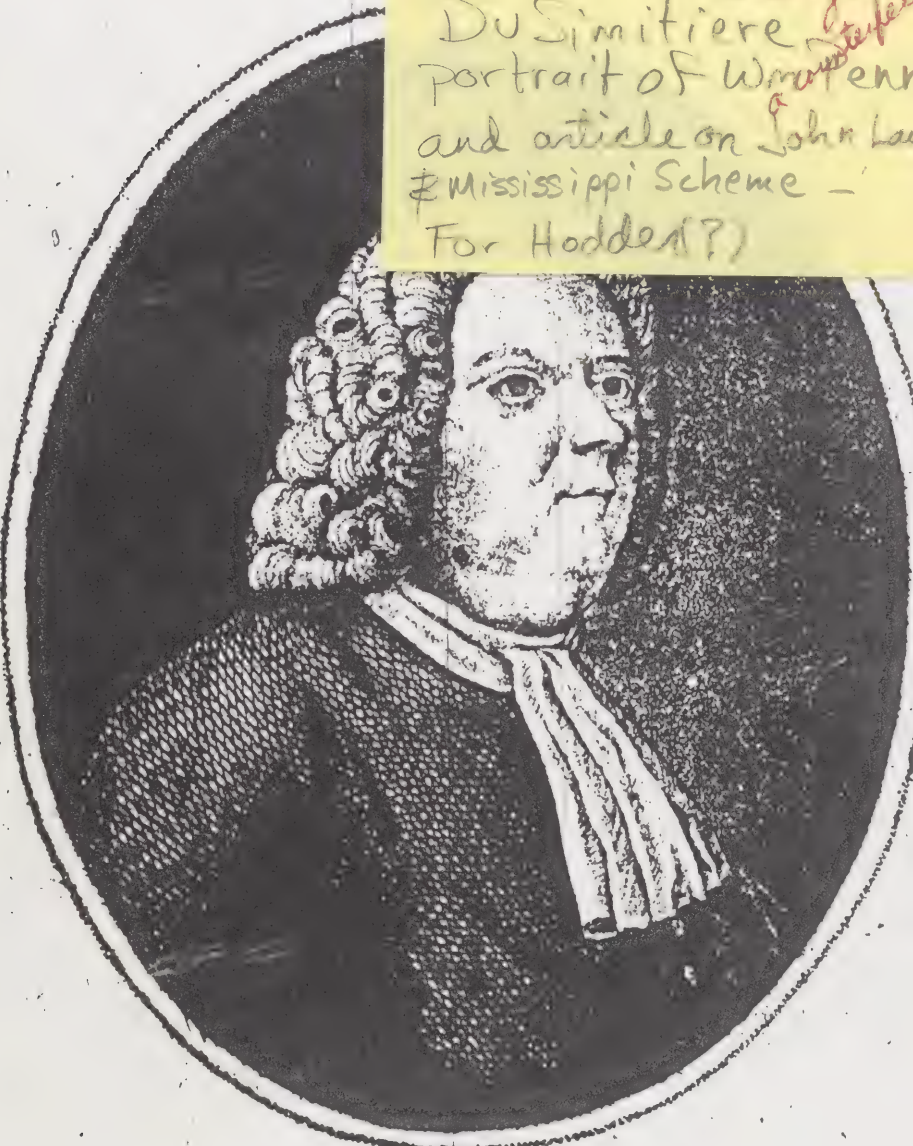
A bit of fun

miscellany

Du Simitiere
portrait of Wm Penn
and article on John Law
& Mississippi Scheme -

For Hodder(?)

This is
J. Smith's
masterpiece



WILLIAM PENN.

From a drawing by Du Simitiere, esteemed
by Richard Penn, a good Likeness.

A

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For the American Universal Magazine.



WILLIAM PENN.

*From a drawing by La. Similiere, esteemed
by Richard Penn, a good Likeness.*

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THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA 20 FOUNDED 1731

1314 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107

December 7, 1970

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I hope you received our earlier letter expressing our great appreciation for your kindness in sending us your book on Colonial paper currency. As a small return, I enclose herewith xeroxes of the Du Simitiere broadside. I am sure you can piece it together to your satisfaction.

I have written to Dr. Miles, sending him xeroxes and hope that he will be able to solve our problem. I appreciate your intervention on our behalf.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Edwin Wolf', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Edwin Wolf, 2nd
Librarian

EW:mp
Enclosure

Vol 20 Jan 1907

10. 2 top-leaves. Short thighs and long legs var.
11. 2 top-leaves. Chignon under right part of Y.
12. 1 top-leaf. Chignon touches letter Y.
13. 1 top-leaf. Chignon under right part of Y.
14. 1 top-leaf. Chignon under centre of Y.
15. The ugly face var.
16. 47 leaves. Cannon balls between dress and bale of goods.
17. 45 leaves. Balls under dress.
18. 41 leaves. Balls under dress.
19. 36 leaves. Balls between dress and bale.
20. 36 leaves. Balls under dress.
21. 32 leaves. Balls under bale.
22. 32 leaves. Balls under dress.
23. 12 leaves. Dated on Rev.
24. 11 leaves. Dated on Rev.
25. 9 leaves. Dated on Rev.
26. 6 leaves. Dated on Rev.
27. Close wreath. Dated on both sides.
28. Open wreath. Dated on both sides.
29. Small vessel var. Dated on Obv.
30. Battle ship var. Dated on Obv.
31. 1813. Oval rosette var.
32. 1813. Circular rosette var.

Oldest Coin Collection Recorded in the U S

The following notes pertaining to numismatics, have been taken from the diary of the Rev. William Bentley, lately published by the Essex Institute of Salem. We are indebted to Mr. John Robinson of Salem for his kindness in culling these numismatic bits from Bentley's diary and laying them before the numular fraternity. Considerable importance should be attached to these extracts because random jottings on coins treated from a numismatic standpoint seldom occupied the thoughts of our ancestors and also, because mention is made of a coin collection. This collection of Judge Winthrop's must have been one of the first formed in this country. What became of this collection is a mystery. Considerable search has failed to locate the ultimate disposal of this cabinet. Can any of our readers throw some light on this?

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF WILLIAM BENTLEY, D. D. of Salem: PUB. ESSEX INSTITUTE, SALEM, MASS., 1905:

1787, Aug. 26, p. 73. Presented to Winthrop, a copper coin of Charles XII of Sweden, 7 by 9 lines. The stamps were all on one side, one in the middle, one in each corner. It weighed about four pounds.

Sept. 2 p. 73. About this time was a great difficulty respecting the circulation of small copper coin. Those of George III. being well executed were of uncommon thinness, and those stamped from the face of other coppers in sand, commonly called "Birmingham," were very badly executed. Beside these were the coppers bearing the authority of the States of Vermont, Connecticut and New York, etc., but no accounts how issued, regularly transmitted, the Connecticut copper, has a face in general form resembling the Georges, with this inscription. (He then describes the various state issues he has met with, speaking of the Vermont as having "a new star appearing among the thirteen. A sun rising over the mountains, to demote the green mountain boys, a name assumed during the war.") A mint is said is preparing for the commonwealth of Massachusetts. It may be noted that the New York and Connecticut coin face opposite ways. To remember all the coin which passes through my hands, I note down a few coppers of foreign coin: Swedish coin, shield, three bars, lion, etc., 1763, measures 1 inch and 3-10: another 1747 similar: Russian, a warrior on horseback with a spear piercing a dragon, on the reverse a wreath infolding a cypher.

Sept. 16. p. 75. In removing a stone wall in Mystic or Medford, in 1783, there were found under it a large collection of brass pieces nearly square, mixed with the smallest brass coins of Europe, the whole half a peck. A few round ones have a fleur-de-lis stamped on each side of them. The figures on the others were confused but representing no character. The stone had lost all appearance of ever having been moved, and there is no recollection of the currency of such pieces which appear to have been in use. A coin circulated with the apparent authority of Vermont. A star with an eye in the centre and between the rays other stars in number thirteen. On the reverse a wreath in which is enclosed the cyphers U. S. Inscription Libertas et Justitia. 1785.

Nov. 4, p. 79. A list of medals and coins sent to Mr. Winthrop of Cambridge: Medal of Sweden in honor of Augsburg confession

A George reigning

A Pitt

Coin: Russian 4 Copck

Danish XXIV skill:

Danish XII skill:

George I penny: eng:

Charles I penny

Charles' rose. Jus divinum

St. Pelegrin

five northern copper coins

and besides a Chinese lanthorn

1788, April 2, p. 91 (Here he describes a Chinese cash called "Caxa" he had from Capt. West, which he refers to at length) From Capt. Elkins I received two coins much like our Cobbs. They are above the weight of an English farthing, which having a character differing from either of the former and having on one side the Arabic figures.

1788, Aug. 10, p. 103. Copper coin nearly the size of a dollar with the arms of Portugal. Elegant inscription, Maria I et Petrus III 1777. (He describes another the "size of English half pence with the face and shield of a pistareen") Ins. Philip V. D. G. Hisp. Rex, and on the reverse a lion crowned, globe and sceptre. Ins. Utrumq. Virt: Protego: 1742. Coppers stamped XII on one part and opposite on the same side 16 effaced, on the reverse VIII. 63 and other confused marks.

1790, June 1: p. 171 (His "good friend Capt. Hodges" gave him some coins) One Swedish, Gustavus the third, 1788. A coin of the U. S. of Holland Arms with the inscription concordia fcs parvas crescunt, 1761. Two pieces of Tippecanoe with fleur-de-lis on the face and confused figures on the reverse.

June 6, p. 175 Received from Capt. H. Elkins,—(besides many other curiosities) One Dutch coin Hero in armor, etc. 1786: French coin, Isles de F. and Bourbon, 3 sols, 1770. Dutch, bruised, marked 6 s. 1777. A Fanam, three fleur-de-lis. Pice, two, marked Bom, etc. Silver coin marked M. ras Isulae. Num. 1680. Three French West Ind: copper coins. Col. Franz, etc. 1767. Gold Cobb (?) figured, third of gold rupee.

1791, July 20, p. 277. Being Commencement at Cambridge, I set out for Cambridge from Deacon Ridgeway's and in a chaise went to Judge Winthrop's with whom I spent the day. In the morning I entertained myself with his curious cabinet of Coins and Medals. It was large and not with any antiques, but it had a great variety of small pieces and may be deemed the best we have in this part of the country. It is improving its value by constant additions, but it requires too great an interest in this country, to have its full success.

1791, Sept. 15, p. 302. Watson in his fourth volume of his Chymistry, has the following,—"It is reported of King James II, that he melted down and coined all the brass guns in Ireland and afterwards proceeded to coin the pewter with this inscription, Melioris lessera fati. The Congress in America had recourse to the same expedient; they coined several pieces of about an inch and a half in diameter, and of 240 grains in weight in which; on one side of which was in a circular ring near the edge, Continental Currency. 1776, and within the ring a rising sun with Fugio, at the side of it, shining upon a dial under which was Mind your business. On the reverse were thirteen small circles joined together like the rings of a chain, on each of which was inscribed the name of some one of the thirteen states. On another circular ring within these was inscribed America Congress, and in the central space, We are one. I have been particular in the mention of this piece of money, because, like the leaden money which was struck at Vienna when that city was besieged in 1529, it will soon become a great curiosity. I estimated the weight of a cubic foot of this continental currency. It weighs 7440 ounces. This exceeds the weight of a cubic foot of our best sort of pewter, and falls short of that of our worst. I conjecture that the metal of this Continental currency consisted of 12 parts of tin and 1 of lead."

An Eighteenth Century Coin Collection

By HARROLD E. GILLINGHAM, Philadelphia, Pa.

Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere (born in Geneva c. 1736, d. in the United States 1784) was one of the earliest recorded American numismatists. He came to New York in 1765, later going to Burlington, New Jersey, where he became intimate with John Smith, an early Quaker merchant, and with whom he left his collection as security for money advanced.

Du Simitiere was an ardent collector. He is known to have accumulated shells, tropical objects and scraps of history, as well as coins and medals during the ten years he traveled through the West Indies and the Southern colonies before he settled in Philadelphia, where he took up painting, and produced a number of portraits of eminent Americans, many of which were engraved and published in 1783 in London. After the Revolution he submitted to Congress designs for the Great Seal of the United States and a medal to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, both of which were rejected.

How extensively Du Simitiere went into coin collecting cannot be determined, but in the Albert Cook Myers collection is a photostat copy of his "Catalogue of Medals and Coins of Silver in the possession of the hon'ble John Smith Esqr. at Burlington" which had been deposited as collateral security for the loan made him by Smith, and which the borrower was never able to liquidate. We also learn from a letter of Du Simitiere to William Dillwyn that John Smith was evidently also a collector, as he stated: "I imagine however that they'll remain with you or Some of the family at least for Some time, as well as his own collection which was considerable."

The Du Simitiere collection was assembled before 1770 and what its monetary value was at that time is unknown (many were over a century and a half old); but with the scarcity of gold and silver currency in the colonies at that period one is justified in assuming that he had quite an investment in the collection. There were 135 pieces in all, including a Rixdaler of Augustus, Elector of Saxony, dated 1581, and over fifty pieces of the seventeenth century, mostly prior to 1650. There were three silver medals, a "Medal of Arts, with English inscriptions, 1730"; a medal struck in Philadelphia 1757, for The Friendly Association for Preserving Peace with the Indians, and a Montreal medal of 1760, made in New York, by Daniel Christian Feuter. Eleven coins of the Holy Roman Empire, twenty-one of the several German States, some as early as 1589, and which hardly ever saw use in colonial trading; twenty-seven French coins, sixteen of Spain, and others from England, Russia, Poland, Denmark, Austrian Netherlands, Italy and Lorraine.

It is regrettable that space forbids the reproduction of the entire list of coins in this early collection, which contained such pieces as a 4-mark piece of Sweden; a rixdaler of Sigismund III of Poland, one of Rudolph II, 1604, of the Empire; a gulder of Saxony, 1589; one of Maximilian of Bavaria, 1625, marked "Virgin," evidently meaning a proof coin. A half lion dollar of the Netherlands, 1622; a half crown of Louis XIV of France, 1642; an English crown of 1679, a ducat of Venice, and several Spanish and Portuguese coins of the seventeenth century.

The catalogue had been written on a folio sheet, which, after being folded into four, had been endorsed by William Dillwyn (the son-in-law of John Smith) as follows:

The Coins mentioned in this list were left as security with J. S. for Money advanced and the person who left them finding it inconvenient to repay the Money, says he is satisfied they should be disposed of.

10mo. 23d. 1772. The Bundle of Coins and Medals herein mentioned and a Copy of the List, Wm. Dillwyn took to Philada. with him in Order to put them into the hands of Jos. Richardson Goldsmith there, to sell, and acct. for them to the Executor.

On the end of the folded document is also written "List of Medals and Coins (Sold Wm. Logan.)." Hence we are justified in assuming that the grandson of the great James Logan became a numismatist; but inquiries among several members of the Logan family fail to reveal the whereabouts of the Du Simitiere collection. The "Jos. Richardson, Goldsmith" who sold the coins was a prominent Quaker silversmith, and it was he who struck the

medal for the "Friendly Association for Preserving Peace with the Indians by Pacific Measures."

The following letter from Du Simitiere is worth quoting as it explains his reasons for parting with his collection:

Philada. April 7th 1771.

Sir,

The favour of yours of the third instant came but yesterday to my hands, by which I see that your late father in law acquainted you with a parcel of Silver medals and coins I deposited with him at my return from N York as a consideration for a Sum he was so generous as to lend me the year before, these coins which I deliver'd him in a paper Sealed and directed to himself were in number hundred and thirty five. collected during many years travels at no Small expence, many of whom [sic] being Scarce costed me much more than their weight. I gave him at the Same time a catalogue of them which you'll no doubt will find among his papers. I am very confident that had providence continued him among us I Should have had them again for the Same Sum whenever it would have been convenient for me to have repaid it, but as it has pleased the almighty to dispose of him before [I] could terminate that affair, I must now Submit to part with them for ever as it is not at present in my power to repay that Sum to his executors. I acknowledge here with gratitude your kindness for me in following So far the intentions of that very respectable gentleman in offering them to me upon the terms I had agreed with him and I find my Self unfortunate in not being able to accept of your generous offer. I imagine however that they'll remain with you or Some of the family at least for Some time as well as his own collection which was considerable and would flatter my self that if they Should ever come to be Sold, you or the next of his executors would (in consideration of the friendship with which that worthy gentleman had honoured me for Several years past) favour me with the first offer. I have been for Some time past looking for a more convenient appartment than that I am now in, as Soon as I have met with one I shall do myself the pleasure to wait on you and at the Same time disencumber your house from the lumber my late respected friend suffer'd So long in it. after presenting my respects to Miss Hannah I subscribe my Self with consideration

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant
DU SIMITIÈRE.

Mr. William Dillwyn at Burlington.

Perhaps some present-day collectors have in their cabinets coins from this collection, and it would be of interest to know what has become of the Montreal medal having on the reverse TANK ALKEL MOHIGRANS, which is probably the only one so designated. Mr. L. A. Renaud of Montreal does not have it among his list of known Montreal medals.

One of the half crowns of George II, 1745, has on it the word LIMA under the bust, which Mr. Howland Wood, Curator of The American Numismatic Society, advises was to indicate that it was made of bullion taken from the Spanish, probably some of that booty, amounting to £500,000, captured by Admiral Lord George Anson on June 20, 1743, during his cruise in the south Pacific Ocean, when he captured a Spanish treasure ship, and which he took to England the following year.

Those Rare Threes

By WM. D. HOGAN, Parrottsville, Tenn.

The paper, "Rarity vs. Price," published in the September issue of The Numismatist, mentions conditions that are far too prevalent. A recent study of the offerings of \$3 pieces in a large number of sales bears out Mr. Gibbs' statements. Many dates which are no more than scarce have been classed as rare by cataloguers. There is one favorable sign, however: Within the past eighteen months dealers have been adjusting their prices, and some of the neglected dates are beginning to receive the attention they deserve. They will get more recognition as the years pass. In an effort to further dispel the haze that has long surrounded the three-dollar series, and to give interested collectors a fair conception of the comparative scarcity of the various dates, the study below is presented.

The writer is cognizant of the fact that one who undertakes a work of this type lays himself open to serious criticism. It is not his purpose to stir up controversy.

As to validity: These conclusions have been reached after a detailed study of the offerings (fully half a million lots) in three hundred auctions. Many of the sales were among the largest and most important ones held